



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

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19 AUGUST 1965

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DAILY BRIEF
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1. South Vietnam

Buddhist leader Thich Tri Quang is stirring up trouble again.

Recent reports indicate that Quang is organizing a series of antigovernment demonstrations which may begin tomorrow. These protests are to be directed mainly against the recent government decree mobilizing all men up to age 37. Apparently a number of Quang's friends are affected by the new law.

The US Embassy in Saigon reports that malicious gossip about the government, and particularly about Premier Ky, is gaining currency among other Buddhist leaders. These people believe that despite Ky's talk about eliminating corruption, he, in fact, has fallen into the old-style corrupt pattern himself.

Ky, meanwhile, is arranging more foreign travel.

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2. North Vietnam

More surface-to-air missile equipment has been spotted near Hanoi.

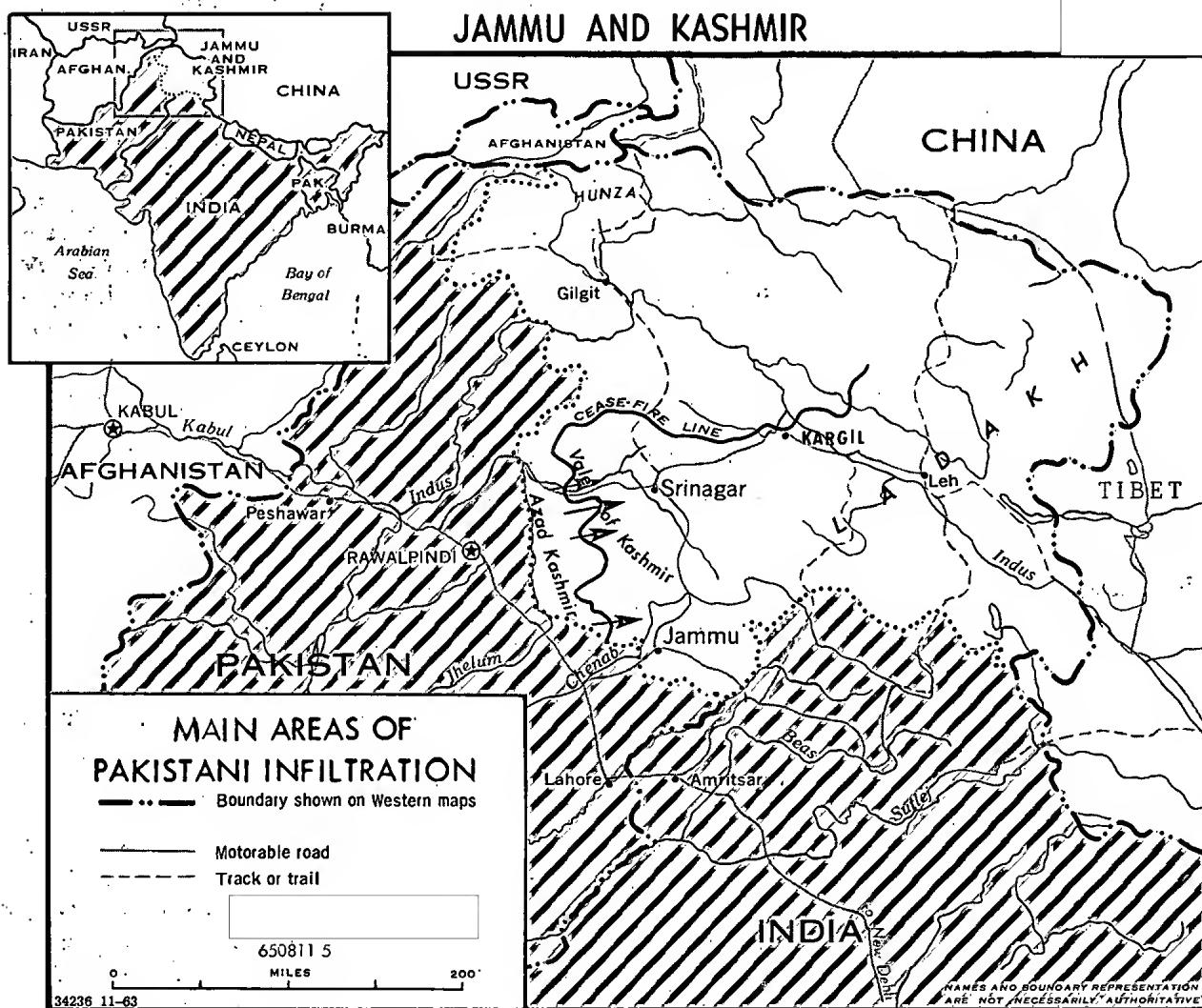
The preliminary scan of photography taken on 16 August showed two canvas-covered launchers, computer vans, and other equipment near Kep, about 33 miles northeast of the capital.

Kep is the site of an airfield which has recently been extensively improved.

3. Indonesia

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4. Nationalist China

US observers on Taiwan feel that Madame Chiang Kai-shek's forthcoming nonofficial visit to the US is intended to drum up support among the US public and influential individuals for the Chinese Nationalist regime and for Chinese Nationalist military operations against the Chinese Communists, either in support of US efforts in Vietnam or against the China mainland itself.

She is unlikely to be carrying any specific proposals to present to the US Government. Rather, she probably hopes to prepare the ground for the presentation of Generalissimo Chiang's views by his son, Defense Minister Chiang Ching-kuo, when he arrives in September. Although Chiang Ching-kuo is second only to his father on Taiwan, he is less well known in the US than is Madame Chiang, and the regime may be banking on her to create a public receptivity.

5. Kashmir

The continued infiltration of guerrillas, now estimated by the Indians at more than 4,000, is having its effect, and Indian forces appear to be having difficulty in coping with the wide-ranging bands. There is still no sign of a rising by the pro-Pakistan Kashmiri, however.

There is more military activity along the cease-fire line itself. The Indians have taken several Pakistani posts in the Kargil area which overlooked the vital Indian road link with Ladakh on the China border. In retaliation the Pakistanis have seized several Indian posts at the southern end of the line and have shelled a brigade headquarters. Some regular units in both Pakistan and India are reported as moving or preparing to move toward the Kashmir area.

Meanwhile, the limited effectiveness of the UN observers in the area is being whittled away by doubts among the military on both sides about their impartiality.

6. Yemen

On Saturday Nasir will go by yacht to Jidda on the Red Sea for his talk with Faysal.

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A sizable air and naval escort is being lined up to ensure his security. This will also constitute a show of Egyptian force in the area.

Meanwhile, both the Saudis and the Egyptians continue their slow build-up along the Saudi-Yemeni border near the coast.

7. Iraq

Kurdish leader Mulla Mustafa Barzani alleges [redacted]

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[redacted] that the Iraqi Government is about to use gas in its campaign in the north against the Kurds.

This looks to be only an effort to generate support for the Kurds. There is no [redacted] confirmation of Barzani's claim, and the Iraqi forces are not known to have a significant chemical warfare capability. An Iraqi purchase of gas masks last spring stirred up similar Kurdish predictions then, but the gas masks are believed to have been intended to bring the equipment of the Iraqi Army in line with that of other forces in the United Arab Command.

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8. Bolivia

Military units are reportedly being sent to reinforce police in mining areas where miners are demonstrating against the government's program for the mines. So far, the demonstrations have been peaceful, but they threaten to grow uglier.

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9. Colombia

On 16 August, according to a military intercept, Colombian officials were investigating a report that a "nation-wide" Communist terror campaign was to begin on the 18th. Thus far only two incidents of oil pipeline sabotage--on the 18th--have been reported.

10. France

Despite the allegations of those who claim to be in the know, De Gaulle has kept his own counsel on whether he will stand for re-election on 5 December. He may well continue to do so until 16 November, the constitutional deadline.

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Should De Gaulle nonetheless opt out, Premier Pompidou still seems his most likely successor.

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